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Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fourth session

Draft report

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017
(*Item 3 (b)*)

Programme 23
Humanitarian assistance

1. At its 16th meeting, on 11 June 2014, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 23, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 23)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Views were expressed in support and appreciation of the programme, and the importance of the work of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs was stressed.

4. The view was expressed that all the activities of the Office should be carried out within the framework of the legislative mandates, in particular General Assembly resolution 46/182.

5. Concerns were expressed about the methodological aspects of the proposed strategic framework. In particular, it was stressed that the proposed framework must follow the principle of results-based management and that indicators of achievement

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should focus more on the impact and outcome of the Office's work and should be relevant and measurable.

6. The view was expressed that the proposed framework did not take into account the growing complexity of the situation of refugees and that consideration needed to be given to creating a separate subprogramme for the reinforcement of the capacity of States that receive refugees to deal with the humanitarian issues of those refugees.

7. Clarification was also sought on training programmes on humanitarian assistance.

8. Appreciation was expressed for gender mainstreaming.

9. It was noted that the proposed strategic framework had been changed and that ideas contained in the strategic framework for 2014-2015 had been excluded from the proposed strategic framework for 2016-2017. The view was expressed that changes to the proposed strategic framework should be based on legislative mandates and that simplification should not be done to the detriment of the substance.

10. Under subprogramme 1, Policy and analysis, the view was expressed that the removal of the words "strategic and operational" in the objective should not affect the overall objective of the subprogramme. Clarification was sought on the "dialogue on change" under expected accomplishment (a). The view was expressed that expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b) were operational rather than related to policy and analysis. Clarification was sought as to why changes were made to expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b), especially in view of the fact that the question of protection of civilians was still being debated. Doubts were expressed about expected accomplishment (b) and indicator of achievement (b). It was noted that references to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the International Organization for Migration had been omitted. It was also pointed out that the indicator of achievement on the number of resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators trained had been removed. Clarification was sought with regard to the 2006 note from the Secretary-General on guidance on integrated missions referred to in paragraph 23.6.

11. Under subprogramme 2, Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response, clarification was sought on the changes made to expected accomplishment (a) and indicator of achievement (a) (i) and how the expected accomplishment and the indicator relate to the objective of the subprogramme. It was indicated that the reason for the phrase "as appropriate" included at the end of paragraph 23.9 was not clear.

12. Under subprogramme 3, Natural disaster reduction, the view was expressed that subprogramme 3 should be renamed "Natural disaster risk reduction".

13. It was noted that the rationale for the reformulation of the objective was not clear. Clarification was sought as to why it was changed, why the words "through partnerships" were included and what exactly was meant by "partnerships". Furthermore, it was noted that there seemed to be a disconnect between the expected accomplishments and the indicators of achievement with regard to the objective. Clarification was also sought on the respective roles of the secretariat of the

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in disaster risk reduction.

14. Under subprogramme 4, Emergency support services, with regard to indicator of achievement (a), clarification was sought about the difference between provision and delivery of international assistance.

15. Under subprogramme 5, Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy, it was viewed that indicators (a) (ii) and (iii) should have been better formulated. The view was also expressed that, while the use of social media was growing, the role of communication by means of radio was still important, especially for people living in poverty and in remote places, and that it should not be overshadowed by new technologies.

Conclusions and recommendations

16. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 23, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 23.1

In the first sentence, replace the word "development" with the phrase "sustainable development"

In the second sentence, after General Assembly resolution 46/182, add "in which the Assembly set out the guiding principles of humanitarian response and"

Subprogramme 1
Policy and analysis

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following: "To improve the strategic and operational coherence of humanitarian response"

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Under expected accomplishment (a), delete the words "on change"

Replace expected accomplishment (b) with the following: "Improved operational planning, monitoring and accountability of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs during disasters and emergency situations, including the transitional phase from relief to sustainable development"

Add expected accomplishment (c), as follows:

"(c) Improved capacity of United Nations coordinators for the protection of civilians"

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicator of achievement (b) with the following: "Percentage of inter-agency evaluation recommendations implemented by humanitarian agencies"

Add indicator of achievement (c), as follows:

"(c) Number of resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators trained in the application of guidelines for the protection of civilians"

Subprogramme 2
Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Add expected accomplishment (d), as follows:

"(d) Improved response to humanitarian emergencies by all United Nations operational agencies"

Indicators of achievement

Add indicator of achievement (d), as follows:

"(d) Percentage of new or escalating emergencies in which coordination staff is deployed within seven days"

Strategy

Paragraph 23.9

In the last sentence, delete the words "as appropriate"

Subprogramme 3
Natural disaster reduction

Rename the subprogramme "Natural disaster risk reduction"

Objective of the Organization

Replace the objective of the Organization with the following: "To prevent and reduce the risk of and vulnerability to natural hazards and the impact of disasters"

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

Under expected accomplishment (a), replace the phrase "Increased capacity and commitment" with "Increased national capacity and commitment"

Indicators of achievement

Under indicator of achievement (a) (i), add at the end ", including those that confront the root causes of social vulnerability"

Strategy

Paragraph 23.17

After the words "new risk", add "and addressing social vulnerabilities"

Paragraph 23.18

In the first sentence, after the words "networks of", insert "national platforms,"

Subprogramme 5
Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy

Indicators of achievement

Replace indicators of achievement (a) (ii) and (iii) with the following:

"(a) (ii) Increased public engagement in humanitarian issues through social and broadcast media"

Strategy

Paragraph 23.26

In the second sentence, replace the phrase "coverage and reach" with "including broadcast coverage and reach"